

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

Volume 12

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, NOVEMBER 10-16, 1946

Number 20

WITHIN THE WEEK

Former president HERBERT HOOVER, in a statement issued at election eve, asserted that the decision of the electorate repudiates a program of "planned economy." He added that this decision will "have a profound effect on the nations which have been following along the road to the left."

This is a type of thinking that can get the Republican party into a good deal of trouble. The average voter has, at the moment, no clear conception of the gov't he desires. He knew only that he wanted a change. The yen for change is universal in a restless and insecure world. We wanted to shed "regimentation" and cumbersome controls. The British, in contrast, some 15 mo's ago, turned out a conservative gov't to usher in one with marked socialistic leanings. Had our positions been reversed, our respective peoples probably would have reacted accordingly.

Mr HOOVER's statement breaks down under close analysis. The collective voter has thrust into office a heterogeneous group of representatives who, as individuals, are marked by widely varying ideas and ideals. There is not, as yet, any unified party policy.

Perhaps the voter thought, a little wistfully, he was buying a ticket that would carry him back to "the old order of things." But

no gov't can ever ret'n to an earlier period. We must shape our policies to meet presently prevailing conditions. To contend that the election just concluded will put an end to "planned economy" is altogether too reckless and sweeping a statement.

Many of the social controls which came into effect during the 14 yrs of Democratic rule would necessarily have been achieved under any representative gov't. They will be continued thru the yrs, regardless of who sits in the White House. Even a reactionary seeks security for advancing yrs, and federal protection for his bank balance.

The danger now is that the reactionary element in the Republican party may mistake the restlessness which placed them in power for a mandate to forward policies and programs that do not meet gen'l public approval. Should they so interpret, a stalemate seems inevitable.

We disagree with those who now see only gloom in divided political responsibility. There is a distinct possibility for sound, constructive legislation. Neither party can afford the suicidal course of advocating extreme measures to right or left.

The next administration—be it Republican or Democratic—will, in all probability, find its standard bearers in the temperate political zone.



SHIFTING SANDS

Merchants in the larger cities report that customers who "came upstairs" to trade during the war yrs are now beginning to ret'n to the basement stores. Lower incomes, in some cases, coupled with higher prices have stimulated the "bargain" instinct. . . One unanticipated development of the meat shortage may be the instigation of research looking toward development of a satisfactory synthetic glycerine. Glycerine, a by-product of oils and fats, has been at famine point for mo's, to acute distress of large industrial users. . . Commerce dept reports Americans now buying prepared dog food at rate of \$100 million a yr; lavishing add'l \$10 million on care of canines. . . And it may interest you to know that we're now consuming 40 million lbs of medicines a yr. Top item: aspirin, 11 million lbs. . . It may be a bit out of season but we report that Univ of Chicago has now developed seedless watermelon.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

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WM L CLAYTON, Undersec'y of State: "We must share our food, our clothing, our coal, our construction and transportation equipment—in fact, almost everything in the dictionary." 1-Q

Comment of U N delegate from the Far East as listeners expressed surprise when China's chief delegate, Ambassador V K WELLINGTON KOO, began a recent address in English: "He can't talk (Chinese) very well. He's been abroad so long." 2-Q

HENRY FORD II, pres Ford Motor Co, at an observance of 30th anniv of Henry Ford Trade School in Detroit: "It seems to me we might pioneer very intelligently and hopefully in the direction of learning to live together in peace." 3-Q

Maine Development Commission, briefing hunters: "Deer do not wear red. They walk on 4 legs and they do not resemble man in any way, shape or manner." 4-Q

Conversation between 2 women, overheard and reported by OLIN MILLER, in *Chicago Sun*: "Why, no, I didn't tell anyone—I didn't know it was a secret." 5-Q

PHILIP K WRIGLEY, chairman of board, Wm Wrigley Jr Co, in letter to 800,000 retailers announcing continuance of 5¢ gum despite discontinued price ceilings: "Five cents and a pkg of gum have always gone together in the minds of the consuming public that we both have to rely on for our business in the long run." 6-Q

ANN SHERIDAN, film actress, defining a style leader: "A girl who's a chump ahead of everyone else." 7-Q

WM BAXTER, Bridgeport, Conn, meat cutter who chopped his 1st steak bone in wks, ended with a bad cut in his left hand: "Just rusty in my aim, I guess." 8-Q

Gen'l JONATHAN M. WAINWRIGHT, emphasizing necessity of trained men for the "preservation of America": "Never again will we have time to prepare an army after the bombs start to drop." 9-Q

"MAY WE

Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

MARGARET C MUNNS, treasurer of W C T U, charging Nation's distiller's with selling "blended whisky which is nothing more than a mixture of alcohol and water with a small am't of real whisky added for flavor. . . If you look hard enough, a description of the product is found in extremely small type, often on the back label." 10-Q

Lt C O HUTTOW, acting detective chief, Miami, Fla: "A day-by-day check over many wks convinces me that the current crime wave is not caused by veterans." 11-Q

M E Goss, Arkansas Labor Commissioner, reporting some state employers still basing pay-scale on 1915 minimum wage law for women: "We have on record establishments in localities where employment is hard to find paying women as low as \$9 for a 54-hr wk, and this \$9 includes the 6-hrs a wk at overtime rate." 12-Q

ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER, publisher *N Y Times*: "Yr after yr comes the stupid generalization that advertisers control the press. A press sustained (by adv) is less to be suspected of venality or corruption than a press which has no visible means of support." 13-Q

Sign in Tokyo cafe after police warned that meat stolen from experimental cow, inoculated with deadly anthrax germs, might find its way to black mkt, hence to butcher shops and restaurants: "Absolute safety guaranteed for our beef steaks. We are using horsemeat, as heretofore." 14-Q

Ex-soldier at Tucson, Ariz veterans hospital, on Veterans Administration directive prohibiting

"defacing of gov't property" (walls) with pin-up girls: "The Veterans Administration just isn't chivalrous." 15-Q

T C SKEFFINGTON-LODGE, British Laborite, protesting use of designation "second World War" by Prime Minister ATLEE: "Would it not be better to take a risk and call it the last world war?" To which the Prime Minister repl'd: "As far as I know there was a first and second Punic war and not a third." (For the Prime Minister's information, there was a third Punic war.—Ed) 16-Q

Rev ROBT K RUSSELL, pastor 1st United Presbyterian Church, instigator of campaign to clean up vice and crime wave in Steubenville, O: "We want our city to be known thruout the nation as 'the city of churches.' We resent the nickname of 'Little Chicago' by which Steubenville has come to be known." 17-Q

EUGENE MEYER, pres Internat'l Bank, indicating no planned fiscal commitments before end of yr: "Our operations must be conducted with care rather than speed." 18-Q

CHARLIE MILLER, bandy-legged comedian, halled into Hollywood court: "Your honor, the police arrested me because I couldn't walk a chalk line. With these legs I couldn't walk a line drunk or sober." (Judge dismissed charges.) 19-Q

ANDREI A VISHINSKY, Russian Vice-Commissar of Foreign Affairs, asked if he favored UN site near N Y or San Francisco, repl'd: "Both are equally far from Moscow." 20-Q

Lord INVERCHAPEL, British Ambassador to U S, after spending several days on an Iowa farm: "God has been good to this country." 21-Q

Note attached to Christmas trees cut for holiday mkts from Deschutes nat'l forest, Ore: "This tree brings a Christmas message from the great outdoors. Its cutting was not destructive, but gave needed room for neighboring trees to grow faster and better." 22-Q

Quote

Sec'y of State JAS BYRNES, proposing toast at luncheon given for UN delegates: "Those whom war hath joined together, let no peace put asunder." 23-Q

Rev GALEN R WEAVER, declaring that, Christian churches have no room for discrimination against Negroes, other minority groups: "It is behind this barricade thrown up by hoary custom and reinforced by undemocratic legislation that the deliberate enemies of democracy take their last stubborn stand." 24-Q

JOS COREY, San Pedro, Calif, refusing to give name to baby son: "We've always thought a child was handicapped by names chosen by doting fathers and mothers. When our boy is old enough to know what he wants he can choose his own." 25-Q

PAT O'BRIEN, American film star, commenting on mob of film fans (more than 100 rec'd first aid treatment as result) who jammed Leicester square, London, for royally sanctioned premiere of British motion picture, *A Matter of Life and Death*: "Hollywood has never seen anything like this." 26-Q

LADDIE NORTHRIDGE, N Y designer of elegant hats: "Like all milliners, I'm slightly mad!" 27-Q

M A HORNSBY, Atlanta, Ga chief of police, on anti-Negro secret order—Columbians, Inc: "Despite their efforts to pattern an organization after Hitler's Brown Shirts, they are handicapped by the fact that none of their leaders has any brains." 28-Q

EDWARD SETTEVIG, pres Minneapolis Property Owners ass'n, on decision of AFofL Minneapolis Federation of Men Teachers to strike for \$5,000 a yr salary: "I believe it affects the educational progress of this nation in the same manner as if our ministers gathered up into a mob and struck to boycott the gospel by their refusal to serve their people of faith." 29-Q

U S Public Health Service: "Our knowledge of colds is so incomplete that an exact definition of the condition cannot be given." 30-Q

GERALD L K SMITH, Los Angeles, Calif, head of America First organi-

zation: "I move from here into the deep south, where we expect to organize every state. We must lay the groundwork immediately for election of a pres in '48 who will be a confirmed nationalist." 31-Q

ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT, enroute to Russia with wife, the former FAYE EMERSON of movies: "I hope to study several different subjects and look at things generally." 32-Q

ERNEST BEVIN, British Foreign Sec'y, arriving N Y for four-power foreign ministers session to make final peace settlements: "We will see if we can work the treaties into permanent documents and end the state of war." 33-Q

TRYGVE LIE, U N Sec'y-Gen'l, opposing recommendation of mbr FEDOR T GOUSIX that Budget Committee cut secretariat staff by 30 to 40%: "If you want the best people in the world and the best services in the world, you must take the costs that go with them." 34-Q

Sen ELBERT D THOMAS, of Utah, chairman of Senate Military Affairs Committee, urging full disarmament by all nations as bar to future atomic war: "In the world of today, there is only one kind of war—total." 35-Q

SYDNEY E PARKS, managing director greyhound racing track which netted \$1,720,000 personal income last yr: "I am a bit blase of big money. When you consider that despite a very considerable fortune I have to get my collars made from mat'l cut off the tail of my shirt, perhaps you will understand why." 36-Q

Sign posted inside Bogota, Columbia streetcars: "Don't be alarmed if this car leaves tracks or the control gets on fire. There is no danger to you." 37-Q

RITA CROOKS, mbr of "Clipped Wings, Inc," group of TWA hostesses grounded by pilots' strike in Kansas City, who have taken up baby-sitting at 75¢ per hr because they "have to eat": "Maybe our price sounds a little high but we are trained to take care of children." 38-Q

EDWIN SILVERMAN, pres Essaness Theaters Corp'n, Chicago, charging

union organizers were trying to "sabotage" theaters by halting feature movies when half finished, substituting short subjects: "It is nothing but plain communistic, unadulterated lawlessness." 39-Q

Rep CLARE BOOTHE LUCE, of Conn, commenting on her Democratic associate in the House, Rep CHASE WOODHOUSE: "Mrs Woodhouse will reveal herself as a 'commibut.' That's a person who answers every question on Russian aggression. . . by saying 'Understand, of course, I loathe communism, but. . .'" 40-Q

ERNEST HILL, 65, Murray, Utah, blind retired barber, explaining system for catching fish: "My stick locates the trail and the bushes and the bank of the creek. My ears tell me when my worm hits deep water. Patience does the rest." 41-Q

SALLY RAND, burlesque queen, ranking under recent Los Angeles, Calif arrest on charge of indecent performance: "I've spent thousands of dollars proving that my act is a work of art, and I'm willing to spend more." 42-Q

MOHANDAS K GHANDI: "I think America has a very great future, but in spite of what is said to the contrary, it is a dismal future if it swears by the money god called Mammon." 43-Q



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QUOTE is issued weekly by Drake House, Indianapolis, Indiana, Maxwell Drake, Editor; Lucy Hittie, Associate Editor. Subscription: \$5 per year in advance, in U. S. and Possessions. Two years, \$8. Your own and a gift subscription, \$8. Foreign, \$7 per year. Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office at Indianapolis, Indiana, under Act of March 3, 1879. QUOTE uses no original manuscripts; does not accept advertising. Persons using material from QUOTE should credit original sources. Unidentified items may be credited to QUOTE.

Quote



MINING THE MAGAZINES

Grace Notes—CY LANCE, *Good Business*, 11-'46.

Last Thanksgiving I was surprised to receive from a gov't official in Washington, a letter thanking me and expressing generous appreciation for my co-operation on a professional job I had done for him in the yr past. I had been well paid for my services and the matter had slipped from my mind—but not from the mind of this official, who is busier than I ever want to be.

At Thanksgiving this man writes similar letters to everyone who has worked with him or for him in the past yr. They are simple thank-you notes—grace notes, one might call them.

To give the spirit of Thanksgiving one practical expression, each day in Nov. I write several letters of thanks to people. . . father, mother, brothers, sisters, friends, teachers—anyone who has done something for me which has influenced my life. Try it out and see what riches come back to you.—WM L STRIDGER, *Christian Herald*.

This courtly att'n to the graces which are so often neglected has paid this man well—altho a ret'n of any kind is, I am sure, no part of his thought. The valuable support that he rallied from all sections of the country for his program was principally responsible for his success. . .

Grace notes in business, as in music, are happy embellishments, adding richness and charm to the whole effect. They are extras, inexpensive in time and effort, requiring only thanksgiving in the heart. They are the princely luxuries no business or individual should do without.

ABSENTEEISM—1

Aside from shortages, a factor often overlooked in lagging automotive production is *increased absenteeism* over wartime rates. GM's current rate is almost 5% ('41 rate, 1.9%), or 1 out of every 20 employees absent each day. In effect this means that the 40-hr-wk is thereby reduced to a little over 38 hrs on the average.—*Iron Age*.

ATOMIC AGE—2

According to Admiral Blandy who commanded Operation Crossroads at Bikini, the best defense against atom bombing is not to be there at all. "The successful comdr will no longer 'get thar fustest with the mostest.' He will 'get thar with the leastest lastest.'"—*Chicago Daily News*.

CHRISTIANS & JEWS—3

While he was in the Holy Land, Bart Crum looked around at some of the Christian shrines, noted with dismay the disrepair into which they had fallen, and remarked to Agronsky, publisher of the *Palestine Post*: "Frankly, I'm ashamed of the Christians here."

Agronsky replied patiently: "Now, Mr Crum, you shouldn't generalize like that. Some are good, some are bad. You might find this hard to believe, but really—some of my best friends are Christians." Agronsky looked surprised when the San Francisco att'y burst into uncontrollable laughter.—HERB CAEN, *San Francisco Chronicle*.

COMPETITION—4

After having his books audited, a mfr turned to the accountant and said, "Now, if you'll go to my competitor's plant and show him his costs, I'll pay the fee for that, too."

"But why?" the astonished accountant asked.

"It is worth at least as much to me," said the mfr, "to have my competitor know his costs as it is for me to know my own."

The man who remains ignorant of the cost of doing business is headed for disaster—but not alone. He may drag with him innocent mbrs of the trade, industry or community of which he is a part.—*Horizons*.

CONCEIT—5

Those who sing their own praises seldom receive an encore.—*Wisconsin Dells Events*.

CUSTOM—Thanksgiving—6

Long yrs ago, our Pilgrim ancestors had the custom of putting 5 grains of corn upon each empty plate before the Thanksgiving dinner was served. In answer to the questions of their children, their parents explained that their forefathers had come to such dire straits that there was an allowance per person of 5 grains of corn to eat each day.—A RAY GRUMMON, *Religious Digest*.

They DO say . . .

In this day of light meals, a number of restaurants now include a vitamin capsule with each serving to "insure a properly balanced diet". . . Hollywood studios toy with idea of describing story, costumes, etc in braille, sending information free to blind persons, to familiarize them with film before they visit theater. . . Gossip in Washington is that ERIC JOHNSTON, movie czar, looks longingly toward White House. He ran (unsuccessfully) as Republican candidate for U S Senate from Washington (state) in '40. . . *Reader's Digest* will soon bring out French and French-Canadian editions. Eventual aim: to serve every country where there is a potentially important mkt. . . New wkly, *Pace*, devoted to Southern news, will be issued from Atlanta, early next yr. . . Cubans now call tourists their "2nd sugar crop."

DRINK—Drinking—7

Recently I saw a grandmother, daughter and granddaughter at the same cocktail party. It may be another sign that American civilization is maturing.—HARLAN MILLER, *Better Homes & Gardens*.

EDUCATION—8

This is a good time for the colleges to try to work their way thru some of the students.—*Coal-Getter*.

FEAR—9

If a man harbors any sort of fear, it percolates thru all his thinking, damages his personality, makes him landlord to a ghost.—"Doctor's Diary," *Melbourne Herald*.

FREEDOM—Restricted—10

Chickens have no rights when the hawks are around.—*Cumberland Presbyterian*.

HUMAN NATURE—11

If a man could be aroused as easily as his suspicions, we'd have less need for alarm clocks.—*Loyal (Wis) Tribune*.

INGENUITY—12

Some yrs ago Jean M Douglas accompanied her doctor uncle on his sick calls thru a wooded district of Eastern Canada. It was winter and the roads were often impassable. Add'l hazards were created by teamsters hauling wood to mkt towns and frequently hogging the whole road.

Time after time the doctor was forced off the road. Finally he decided to assert his rights. Standing up in the sleigh he waved his whip dramatically.

"If you don't give me half the road," he exclaimed, "I'll give you what I gave the last man we met!"

The teamster turned sharply and gave the doctor more than the lion's share of the road. As the vehicles passed, the teamster's curiosity got the better of him and he called out, "What did you give the last man?"

The doctor smiled. "The whole road."—*Holiday*.

LANGUAGE—13

It is not easy for us who have spoken English and heard English all our lives really to believe that the Spaniard says *amigo* as naturally as we say *friend*, or that the Frenchman says *femme* as naturally as we say *woman*.

A tourist once remarked in Paris, listening to the unfamiliar tongue, "I always feel that they are just playing at talking—like children who've made up a pretend language of their own."—BONARO W OVERSTREET, "You Are the Product of a Culture," *Nat'l Parent-Teacher*, 11-'46.

MARRIAGE—14

There are six requisites in every happy marriage. The first is faith and the remaining five don't matter.—RAY D EVERSON, *Farmer's Guide*.

MATERIALS—Lack of—15

An architect who made a beautiful city in an Arizona desert told me that the architecture of an area is determined by the lack of mat'ls. Because they can't get those mat'ls, they have to take others, and these determine the architecture. The lack produces the con-

structive type—they make their lacks work.—E STANLEY JONES, *Pulpit Digest*.

ORIGIN—"Dot-Dash"—16

It is not generally known, but it was Millard Fillmore, 13th Pres of U S, who gave Samuel F B Morse, inventor of the telegraph, his earliest and most potent support. In gratitude, Morse named the two Morse code characters after Fillmore's children, Dorothy (Dot) and Dashiell (Dash).—BILL VAUGHAN, *Kansas City Star*.

PEACE—17

"The desire for peace does not insure it," said a friend to Ramsay MacDonald when he was Prime Minister of England.

"I know that is right," said MacDonald. "Neither does the desire for a meal satisfy your hunger, but it does start you moving toward a restaurant."—*Ladies' Home Jnl*.

PREACHERS—Preaching—18

A steward came to the presiding elder and asked for a preacher. "How big a man do you want?" asked the elder. "I do not care so much about his size," said the steward, "but we want him to be big enough to reach heaven when he is on his knees."—*Ala Baptist*.



One day is designated as "Thanksgiving Day." How it would revolutionize life if we appointed one day a yr for "Grumbling Day" and all the other days were used for thanksgiving!—MALTIE D BABCOCK, *Religious Telescope*.

PREJUDICE—19

You can't hate a man you know, but you can't know a man you've seen thru a haze of prejudices. . . Try to remember that if Hitler was a German and Mussolini a "Wop," so were Goethe and Michelangelo. The great distinctions are not racial but individual; there's far less difference between a Chinese gentleman and an American gentleman than between an American gentleman and an American who isn't.—CHANNING POLLOCK, "But Maybe You Shouldn't Travel," *Rotarian*, 11-'46.



**CONFIDENTIALLY
THRU A
MEGAPHONE**

The volume of traffic accidents, which trended downward thru the war yrs, has now turned in the opposite direction. Not only is there an increase in the number of accidents involving automobiles, but these accidents, numerically, are out of all proportion to the number of vehicles currently operated.

"It seems," observes the *Construction Digest* wryly, "that people drive as tho determined that no accident will be prevented if they can help it."

Conditions in the state of Va may be taken as rather typical. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported last wk that total deaths from traffic accidents in that state, for the first 9 mo's of '46 showed an increase of 29.72% over a corresponding period in '45. Pedestrian deaths rose more than 14%.

A partial explanation lies in the fact that meager production of new vehicles is forcing many of us to drive our old cars longer and harder than would normally be the case. Even when we are able to effect a trade, the old bus finds a new owner, and one who is perhaps less likely to drive within safe limits. As one traffic engineer puts it: "Today, every car that can be driven is being driven."

But beyond these considerations, many traffic authorities contend that "something has happened to our inhibitions" in this matter of driving cars. And their reference isn't solely, or even primarily to "the boys back from the war." We average citizens have grown far too careless and indifferent concerning the 60 to 100 wild horses that we have at our command when we step on the starter. That something "ought to be done about it" is obvious. And the best place to begin is with an appeal to the conscience and common sense of the individual driver.

Quote



AVIATION: Age of Buck Rogers may not be as distant as we think. At Vienna autumn fair is displayed 30-lb flying device that straps on man's back. Inventor, who claims to have glided with device, is working on version to incorporate engine. (*Reuter's*)

FOOD — Distribution: "Meals-on-Wheels" restaurants, originated by N Y restaurant specialist Laurence I Graham, will soon appear on Conn, N Y highways. One-man operated, the traveling restaurants will sell sandwiches, baked foods, ice cream, coffee, soup, etc, at industrial plants, sporting events, residential districts of driver's choosing. (*Adv & Selling*)

GADGETS: "One-Arm" spring latch, Yale & Towne Mfg Co, enables person encumbered with pkgs to open door without requiring both hands free to manipulate key, lock and door knob. (*Sales Mgt*)

HOME APPLIANCES: To be on mkt soon: a crawling lawn sweeper that moves over grass under own water power. (*Grit*)

MEDICINE: What is probably most effective influenza virus vaccine yet developed was put on mkt last wk. Immunizes for 4 mo's against epidemic and endemic influenza caused by types A and B virus. (*Sharpe & Dohme, Inc, Philadelphia*)

PRODUCTS: New type silicone paint, reported to last a lifetime, will soon emerge from Gen'l Electric laboratories. Makes possible brighter, clearer colors, permanently preserves luster of autos, refrigerators, electric ranges, etc. (*Forbes*)

TRANSPORTATION: New long bus, hinged at the center, turns sharp corners easily. Both axles are fixed, powered with their own engines. (*Capper's Wkly*)

PRETENSE—20

Many persons who pose as fountains of knowledge are intellectually nothing more than little squirts.

—SHANNON FIFE, *Grit*.

PRIDE—Downfall—21

A farmer once found himself the owner of a trotting horse which could step around the county fairs, winning more than his share of races. Naturally the farmer was almost sinfully proud of his horse. Nothing was too good for this fleet-footed winner of races, and further to embellish the beauty of the horse, the farmer began buying a bright buckle here, a shining ornament there. Soon the horse was so loaded with gadgets and ornaments he had trouble winning races.—PAUL SPEICHER, *R & R Magazine*.

PROGRESS—22

A N American business man once discussed with a confrere from S America, the great difference between the 2 continents, and why the one to the north had progressed more rapidly than her southern neighbor. The man from S America offered this explanation: "S America was settled by the Spanish, who came in search of gold; N America was settled by those who came in search of God."—DONALD WM RUTH, "Is This a Time to Be Thankful?" *Pulpit Digest*, 11-'46.

RACE—Prejudice—23

A scientist, given a collection of human brains pickled in alcohol, cannot tell which ones belonged to Negroes and which to white people. Intelligence . . . has absolutely nothing to do with the amt of pigment in the skin. If it had, you would all be much stupider when you are sunburned.—MARGARET HALSEY, *Color Blind*. (Simon & Schuster)

REALISM—24

An adult education teacher with a class in home economics (chose as) her subject and demonstration for the particular session the art of making various soups with a bone. At great length she explained the fine techniques to the group of assembled, middle-aged women. When she finished she asked if there were any questions. Finally in the rear of the room a woman arose and declared, "I think your explanation of making soup out of a bone is all right, but what hap-

pened to the meat that was on the bone?"—WILLARD S TOWNSEND, "Toward Full Equality," *Adult Education Jnl*, 10-'46.

REFORM—25

A reformer insists upon his conscience being your guide.—Macco-Getter.

Post-Election Reflection

According to Jas A Farley, former Democratic nat'l chairman, politicians are mostly honest men.—*News item*.

An honest chap, the politician, We have it on his own admission,

The vigilant and selfless nurse Of public weal and public purse.

He will not straddle, will not hedge, He'd die before he'd break a pledge.

With billions nowadays expendable,

We trust him, knowing he's dependable.

High-principled in word and deed,

He is the kind of man we need, The kind, we also have detected, Who runs, but doesn't get elected.

—RICHARD ARMOUR, in *The Nation*. 26

THOUGHT—27

Minds are like parachutes—they only function when open.—*Christian Life & Times*.

TOLERANCE—28

A friend of mine says that tolerance is the suspicion that the other fellow might be right.—LOUIS WIRTH, on "The Reviewing Stand," wkly radio forum presented by Northwestern Univ, over Mutual Broadcasting System.

VIEWPOINT—29

An old Negro who had just traveled across some southern swamp lands was asked, "Didn't you see lots of poisonous snakes?"

He repl'd, "Warn't lookin' fr none."—*Curtis Courier*, hm, Curtis 1000 Inc.

VISION—30

It has been said that there is a type of mind which likes to kick up a dust and then complain that it cannot see.—WILLARD L SPERRY, *Those of the Way*. (Harper)

Of Roosevelt, the Raconteur

MERRIMAN SMITH, *United Press White House correspondent*, has performed a unique service for the inquisitive layman in the compilation of a *White House Notebook*, which he calls, *Thank You, Mr President* (Harper, \$2.50). The title derives from the phrase traditionally spoken by the senior press ass'n reporter to signal the conclusion of a news conference with the Chief Executive. Mr Smith gives much interesting background data, tells many amusing stories, and provides some enlightening contrasts between the ROOSEVELT and TRUMAN administrations. Here he discusses the former's flair for story-telling:

Nothing helps an accomplished raconteur like the supreme confidence that his audience is utterly enchanted. When Mr Roosevelt told a story, there was not a doubt in his mind that every person listening to him was literally hanging on each syllable. He loved to tell parables. And after he told them a few times he was dead certain that they were true.

During the early stages of the war when inflationary trends were first showing themselves in force, he told a press conference a story. He swore it was true.

It seems a garage mechanic friend of his "dropped in" for a chat. Now, how in the world a mechanic ever dropped in on Mr Roosevelt was beyond explanation. He claimed a lot of friends in comparatively low stations of life. I regarded them as his imaginary playmates because I doubted seriously one of them ever existed. He told often of a Chinese laundryman he knew, a baseball player, a small dirt farmer, a garageman.

This mechanic, he said, had come to him complaining about the high price of strawberries in Feb. His "missus," the mechanic was alleged to have told the Pres, was having to pay a God-awful price for strawberries.

The Pres said he lectured his mechanic friend sharply. Since when could mechanics afford strawberries out of season? Why didn't they eat something else? Why throw away their defense plant wages in such a foolish fashion?

The Pres used this to prove that the price line actually was being held, but that too many people were spending their money on unnecessary luxuries.

About 6 mo's later, the inflation question came up again in a press conference. Someone wanted to know hether the Pres thought the price line was being held, and how much longer it would last.

The Pres declined to comment directly. He thought for a moment

and added that there were too many people like a master mechanic he knew.

This man, he said, had dropped in "to chat" and complain about the high price of asparagus. His "missus," the President said of the mechanic, was complaining bitterly about having to pay such a dear price for asparagus.

And since when, the President said he told the mechanic, did he find it necessary to have asparagus, out of season, on his menu? Why didn't he eat something else? Why contribute to inflation by wasting their defense plant wages on unnecessary luxury items?

I could not resist it. I knew it was presumptuous and bordered on the disrespectful, but I had to ask the question.

"Mr President," I said, "is that the same mechanic who came in a few mo's back complaining about the price of strawberries?"

The press conference exploded with roars of laughter.

Mr Roosevelt turned a little pink and shouted over the guffaws:

"My God, Merriman, it's true. It is true. It was the same man."

But he could hardly finish the sentence because he was laughing too hard, himself.

When he heard a story that was halfway good, but just missed being terrific, he would dress it up to suit himself.

One of his favorites was about an old lady in Hyde Park who was inclined to imbibe a little heavily of a tonic with a high alcoholic content. One night, in a full blizzard, a gust of wind hit the privy and down it rolled the full length of a snowy hill, with the little old lady inside.

I mentioned this story to one of the President's oldest friends. "Not a word of real truth in it," he said. "The President heard how the wind blew open the old lady's privy door one day while she was inside, and caused her some embarrassment. He told the story a number

Gettysburg Address
ABRAHAM LINCOLN

On Nov 19, 1863, in a brief address, Abraham Lincoln dedicated a portion of the Gettysburg battlefield to the soldiers who fell there. Pres Truman has proclaimed Nov 19, the anniv of that great address, as "Dedication Day," asking that Americans re-read the speech "wherever the American flag flies."

We present here a portion of it as pictured in the 1946 Phoenix Flame Anthology by H J Higdon, who visioned the results if the speech had been corrected and blue penciled by modern interpreters of "correct" journalism.

Fourscore and seven yrs ago (Much too stilted—say "eighty-seven.") our fathers brought forth ("Founded" is a much better word.) on this continent a new nation, (What nation? Put the name in there big!) conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men (Don't overlook the women—there's lots of them, you know.) are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. (Endure what? Say "last.") We are met (You mean "have met.") on a great battlefield of that war. (What battlefield?) We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place (Don't beat around the bush—say "cemetery.") for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. . .

(Ed note: Why use unnecessary verbiage? You don't seem able to get this idea over in plain forceful language. Sorry, Mr Lincoln, but you'll have to do this over again.)

of times and began to add details. You heard one of the later versions."

"While we are on the subject of yachts," a man once said to J P Morgan, "I am thinking of buying one myself. Tell me, what is the annual upkeep?"

"Any man," ans'd Mr Morgan firmly, "who has to even ask about the annual upkeep can't afford one."—*Bolling Field Beam*.

" "

Suburban Resident: "It's simply fine to wake up in the morning and hear the leaves whispering outside your window."

City Man: "It's all right to hear the leaves whisper, but I never could stand hearing the grass mown!"—*American Farm Youth*.

" "

A judge had given his decision on a case, and counsel for plaintiff rose and questioned it.

"I cannot allow you to reopen this case after I've given my decision," said his lordship.

"Then, judge, I may as well sit down," ret'd the lawyer. "It's no use knocking my head against a stone wall."

Ret'd the judge, "I know no other who could perform the operation with less personal injury than yourself."—*Financial Post*.



OF THE WEEK

PRODIGY: A child who plays the piano when he ought to be asleep in bed. — J B MORTON, *Woman's Home Companion*.

" "

To keep friends, always give your candied opinion.—*Coal-Getter*.

" "

Morning is that time of day when the rising generation retires and the retiring generation rises. — *Alexander Animator*, hm, Alexander Film Co.

" "

SKIING: A winter sport that people learn in several sittings.—*Philnews*.

GOOD STORIES

YOU CAN USE

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

Rep WALT HORAN
of Washington

Rastus came to his colored pastor and asked him to pray for his floating kidney. "That's a somewhat strange request, Rastus," the pastor said.

"Ah know it is," said Rastus, "but mah kidney is givin' me trouble, and anyway, last wk yo' prayed fo' de loose livers!" —*Mayflower's Log*, hm, Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D C.

The teacher had just finished telling the story of the Pilgrims to a group of small children.

"Now, Gertrude," began the teacher, "when the Pilgrims had been here a yr and had gathered in their good crops, what did they do?"

Repl'd Gertrude, "Bought a car." —*Cumberland Presbyterian*.

" "

"Dad, what do pro and con mean?"

"Well, son, pro is your convincing unanswerable argument, and con is the other fellow's contemptible drivel."—*N E A Jnl*.

A lady came to the station attendant complaining that her car was jumping. The attendant checked the spark, found that one cylinder wasn't hitting.

"Lady, you have a cylinder missing," he told her.

"I don't see how that could be," she frowned. "I keep my garage locked all the time."—*Jobber Topics*.

" "

Joe, disconsolately looking out the window, noticed a very large log floating down the river. He said, "Now that's typically Washington."

Moe looked and said he couldn't see anything unusual except the log was pretty big.

Joe said, "Yes, I know, but if you'll look closely, you'll notice that there are 100,000 ants on that log and each one thinks he's steering it."—*Abbott Pharmagraph*, hm, Abbott Laboratories.

" "

5-yr-old Wm had been taught that Sunday is not a day for play. One Sunday morning his mother found him sailing his toy boat in the bathtub.

"Wm," she said, "don't you know it is wicked to sail boats on Sunday?"

"Don't get excited, Mother," he repl'd calmly. "This isn't a pleasure trip. This is a missionary boat going to Africa."—*Guardian*. (India)

